Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01021 111622Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 TRSE-00 AID-05 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 SCA-01 SEC-01 PRS-01 JUSE-00 ARAE-00 /054 W -------111802Z 126837 /53

P 111515Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6681

CONFIDENTIAL SAN JOSE 1021

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CS SUBJECT: IRS TESTIMONY

REF: A. STATE 53375 B. SAN JOSE 352

1. COSTA RICAN AUTHORITIES HAVE NO LEGAL OR POLICY OBJECTION TO TAKING OF DEPOSITIONS INIGOSTA RICA BY A U.S. COURT-APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS NOT AN ACCREDITED U.S. CONSULAR OR DIPLOMATIC OFFICER REGARDLESS OF WHERE OXKEN. FORMIN FACIO WAS CLEAR ON THIS POINT WHEN IT WAS DISCUSSED WITH CHARGE FEB. 10 (QUESTION WAS RAISED WITH FACIO IN CONTEXT OF TRAVEL OF COURT-APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE NOT ACCREDITED TO EMBASSY).

- 2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, FACIO ALSO SODJADHTHAT "PROPER PLACE" FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE DEPOSITION IS ITS EMBASSY. BY "FOREIGN GOVERNMENT" FACIO WAS CLEARLY INCLUDING ANY U.S. OFCIAL, COURT-APPOINTED, OR WHOEVER, WH WOULD TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA FOR THIS PURPOSE.
- 3. EMBASSY MUST REGISTER ITS FURTHER CONCERN ON SENSITIVITY OF SUCH DEPOSITION-TAKING AWAY FROM EMBASSY DUE TO LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION. COSTA RICA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES TAKE PLACE MARCH 13. CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01021 111622Z

POLITICAL FEELINGS THESE DAYS ARE HIGH. CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT, OF WHICH VESCO PRESENCE IS ALREADY AN ISSUE, WILL BE A THEME INCREASINGLY HEARD. IF VESCO AND HIS ACCOMPLICES ARRANGE TO GET A U.S. COURT TO RULE THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE TO DEPOSE IN EMBASSY DUE TO JUDGE'S INABILITY TO GUARANTEE THAT WITNESSES WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO ARREST, VESCO'S ALLEGATION

OF USG PERSECUTION WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED AND IT WOULD BE PUBLICIZED HERE ACCORDINGLY. THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD LIKELY BYUSED BY ONE POLITICAL SIDE OR THE OTHER TO DETRIMENT OF U.S. ORM EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT IRS APPEAL JUDGE'S ORDER ON ABOVE AND ON PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED POLITICAL GROUNDS. KILDAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: POLICIES, DEPOSITIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANJO01021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770084-0967

Format: TEL

From: SAN JOSE Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770368/aaaaciej.tel

Line Count: 70 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 8bc1bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 STATE 53375, 77 SAN JOSE 352

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3134340 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE Subject: IRS TESTIMONY

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CS, US, (VESCO, ROBERT L)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8bc1bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009